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INTRODUCTION

The citizens of Saint Clair who read this digest of 100 years of the borough's history must realize that space and time will not permit an exhaustive study of the 1850-1950 development of the community.

An attempt has been made to sketch the town's development from 1850 to 1950, politically, economically, religiously, and socially. It is obvious that there wasn't room for everything. Naturally many events of importance may have been omitted, and perhaps unimportant ones inserted. Some readers may chide for leaving out favorite memories.

Therefore, please read this digest with openmindedness and sympathy toward the committee which has attempted to sketch and digest 100 years of the community's development from very incomplete and inadequately compiled past documents and histories concerning Saint Clair.

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HISTORY OF SAINT CLAIR 1850 — 1950

SAINT CLAIR 1850 to 1950 — One hundred years of progress. Since the present state of affairs is the consequence of the past this history written for our Centennial Week shall show the continuous stream of human events, tendencies and progress.

SAINT CLAIR 1800 to 1850 — Early in 1800 Michael Bechtel came and settled somewhere in what is now Arnot's Addition. He was followed by John Malone, a lumber dealer, the Nichols family and others. In 1829 John Burgett came and erected a tent in which to shelter and board workmen from Girard Tunnel. His daughter Charlotte Burgett was the first child born in Saint Clair.

In 1831 the Nichols' farm comprised the whole of Saint Clair site. This was bought by Carey, Lee and Hart. They laid out the streets and named it Saint Clair from the christian name of General Saint Clair Nicholas of Revolutionary fame.

This village contained 8 or 10 houses, 2 saw mills, a cider mill and a plot of ground for a graveyard. This plot was later deeded to the borough and was set apart for a borough cemetery.

In 1829 the first railroad was built. Its rails were wooden and the cars were drawn by horses. It extended to Port Carbon. In 1830 the first coal opening was made in an orchard on the ground known as Arnot's Addition and from it shipments were made. It was known as the "Orchard Vein." In 1834 private schools were begun and were taught by men and women. In 1837 a public road was opened to Port Carbon. About 1838 the first free school was opened. It was held in the building in the borough cemetery that had been erected for religious purposes. Its first teacher was Benjamin Jackson, who came from Catawissa. In 1845 the post-office was established. Jacob Metz was the first post master. Mail was carried by stage to and from Pottsville. A telegraph office later was in the post-office.

The first church in the town was the Welsh Congregational Church built about 1840. The first lodge was Mineral Lodge No. 285 I. O. O. F. organized April 1, 1848. In 1850 we were incorporated a borough.

POLITICAL ROLE 1850 to 1950 — Saint Clair prior to its incorporation as a borough was known as Saint Clairville, a village of Norwegian Twp. On April 6, 1950, Governor Johnson of Pennsylvania signed the Act of Incorporation which made Saint Clair a borough.

The first election under this Act of Incorporation was held May 9, 1850. All male residents who had lived in the town six months could vote. Officials were elected for the borough's three departments of government namely — legislative, executive, and judicial as well as members of the school board.

The borough's first council had five members — Jacob Metz, the president, Michael Reilly, John Williams, Jacob Frantz, and John May. Council met the first Wednesday after the May 6 election. The members divided into three classes. Our borough had three wards in 1850 with five councilmen. In this centennial year of 1950, the borough has four wards and twelve councilmen.

The present trend is to return to the original number of five councilmen to be elected at large. The present incumbents are president — Richard Gray.

WEST WARD COUNCILMEN:

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HISTORY OF SAINT CLAIR 1850 — 1950

NORTH WARD COUNCILMEN:
Raymond Burns, John Gregor, and Michael Kundrack.
MIDDLE WARD COUNCILMEN:
Richard Gray, William McDonald, and Howard Sterner.
SOUTH WARD COUNCILMEN:
Harry G. Cookson, Harry Frantz, and Joseph H. Long.

The members of our town council from 1850 to 1950 have made Saint Clair a town of which our citizens may be justly proud. The many improvements are a monument to the efforts of the individuals who gave their time to serve as members of the borough's legislative department the past 100 years.

The borough's executive department has had capable and progressive officials too. Our first chief burgess was John Lawton. The first high constable was Joel Metz. The first town clerk was Lott Evans. The first tax collector was Michael Henny. The first assessor was Benjamin Jackson. Associate assessors were Henry Krebs and Daniel Slobig.

The present chief burgess is William T. Brady. The present police force is: Chief of Police — Joseph Kaminsky. Patrolmen John Futchko, Fred Zulick, and Edward Morrow.

The Borough Superintendent is Herman J. Jacoby. The Borough Secretary is John Shandor. The Borough Treasurer is Francis Miller. The Fire Chief is Joseph F. Petrozino. Assistant Fire Chief is John Sofilka. Health Officer is John Betz. Coroner is Charles Staso. Tax Collector is Samuel Daddow. Ward Assessors are Joseph Klemer, Wilbur Thomas, Joseph Scherr, and Robert J. Robertson. Ward Constables are John Pretti, Robert Lawless, George Davenport, and Chester Vochie.

The borough's judicial department of 1850 was carried on by the first Justice of the Peace, John Seitzinger.

The present justice of the peace is George Boote. The borough solicitor is Raymond Monahan.

The school board of 1850 had six members — Daniel Frack, John Lawton, John Williams, John Landford, William Stoker, William Monteluis or Montiles.

The school board of 1950 has seven members — Claude Rhoads, President, Earle Heinbach, Secretary, Edward Thomas, Treasurer, Dr. Errol T. Jones, George Johns, Thomas Moore and John Uhrin.

Charles R. Birch, Authorized School Official.

Francis M. Boyer, Attendance Officer.

The first borough hall was located on the present site of the Schulkind store. The second building was Walker's Hall, now Denatzko's on Third Street. In 1880 the borough hall was moved to North Third Street near the Reading Station. Our present municipal building is at 39 North Second Street, formerly Citizens Bank.

NATIONALITIES 1850-1950 — The first settlers of Saint Clair were natives of the British Isles and Germany. These people were thrifty and industrious and eager to establish a permanent community wherein they might enjoy religious, political, and economic freedom.

About the year 1900 there was a shift in the national origin of settlers in the community. The population was increased by natives of central,

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southern, and eastern Europe.

According to the 1940 census, the population of Saint Clair is 6,809.

INDUSTRIAL GROWTH — In the early history of Saint Clair many different industries promoted the development and prosperity of the community. Originally Saint Clair was a dense forest of giant oak, chestnut and spruce trees. Naturally, some of the first settlers turned to lumbering as a means of livelihood. Through this valley flowed a large stream of water, Mill Creek, which provided a source of power and a means of transportation in the lumbering industry.

The first step in the development of the lumbering industry was made by the construction of a saw mill, prior to 1800, by George Orwig at the site of Saint Clair. Thirty years later two other saw mills were built, one back of the Methodist Church and the other near the Johns' Colliery.

As the mining industry progressed the demand for lumber greatly increased. To supply this demand, the lumber yard was introduced as an additional lumber activity. In 1845 the first lumber yard was established by John L. Geiger, who in 1900, leased it to Mr. Kyner, the superintendent of the Hooker Colliery. Later it passed into the hands of Messrs. Arncut, Parmley, and Reichley. In 1925 this lumber yard, located on Nicholas Street between Lawton and Carroll Streets, was abolished and the land was sold as residence sites.

From 1840 to 1865 Jonathan Hetherington supplied timber to the mining operations. His business establishment occupied the present site of the Polish Church, on Nicholas Street.

In 1887 Albert Mettam established a lumber business on Third Street. After his death in 1912, the son, Archibald Mettam, became the proprietor of this flourishing enterprise which is still one of the leading lumber yards in the county.

COAL MINING — In 1824 upon the discovery of rich coal veins, mining operations were introduced some of which have continued in production for more than a century. The most important veins of coal include the Primrose, Mammoth, Orchard, Skidmore, Seven Foot, and the Buck Mountain which extend beneath the entire surface of the town and vicinity.

In 1830 the Primrose Vein was opened in the northwestern section by Pinkerton and Company. In 1843 Alfred Lawton became the operator, followed by Frank Parvin who later abandoned operation. It received its name from the primroses that grew on the surface.

In 1830 the Mammoth Vein was discovered, accidentally, by Isaac Beck, a paying teller in the Miners Bank, Pottsville. In 1835 this coal land was leased by John Pinkerton who produced one hundred thousand tons per year. In 1831 Samuel Sillyman and E. Evans opened a drift in the Mammoth Vein at Crow Hollow, later Pine Forest, and they opened a drift also in High Germany in 1831. In 1845 Benj. Milnes, Benj. Haywood, and George Snyder opened a new slope in High Germany called Pine Forest. In 1848 the slope at Mt. Hope was opened.. In 1864 this firm sold to the Boston Consolidated Coal Company.

In 1850 John Pinkerton and Company opened a drift in the apple orchard on the farm owned by Samuel Arnout. The Orchard drift was the first regular coal opening in Saint Clair from which shipments were made.

In 1866 John Holmes operated a slope in the western part of Saint

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Clair and Griffith Jones, Supt. of Peach Orchard Coal Co. operated a slope, at the same time, in the eastern section of town.

In 1866 Thomas Bedford and Burke leased the coal of the P. & R. C. & I. Co. and built a colliery which cost one thousand dollars. In 1872 Adam Jackson built the Saint Clair Colliery in the eastern section of town. In 1862 David Vipen opened a drift south of the Saint Clair Colliery.

The Skidmore Vein and the Buck Mountain Vein were discovered by John Pinkerton and Co. These veins varied from fourteen to ten inches in thickness.

The discovery of the different veins of coal in the vicinity of Saint Clair was followed by the construction of various collieries in this section. These early operations developed into the following collieries: Pine Forest, Wadesville, and Saint Clair Coal Company. A brief explanation of these former collieries will aid in the framework of the coal operations of this section during the past century.

The Parvins Colliery was the oldest colliery. Francis Nichols owned and operated it from 1825 to 1829. Frank Parvin and Company operated it from 1846 to 1860. It was located northwest of the Saint Clair Shaft.

The Rainbow Colliery at Crow Hollow was the second oldest. Ulrich and Schrader operated it between 1826 and 1836. Maurice and Rothermel operated it between 1867 and 1868 when it was abandoned.

The Eagle Colliery, later Herbine, was constructed in 1826 by Frank Hass who operated it until 1832. In 1889 the Saint Clair Coal Company leased it and is operating it at the present time. This is one of the most outstanding operations in the coal region, having produced millions of tons of coal during its existence.

The Hickory Colliery was operated by Beck and Woodside from 1828 to 1835. Wm. Draper and Company had charge of it from 1871 to 1874 when it was abandoned. It was located directly opposite the Saint Clair Coal Company.

The Sillyman Tunnel was operated by Mr. Wetherill from 1828 to 1834. Sillyman and Neice had charge between 1839 and 1846. This tunnel was located in the eastern section of town.

The High German Tunnel was opened by Offerman and Whitenoff in 1830 in the Mammoth Vein.

The Pinkerton Tunnel Colliery was operated from 1830 to 1841 by West, Hudson and Pinkerton. From 1841 to 1853 Pinkerton and Whitfield had charge. This colliery was located in the northern part of the town.

The Lawton Peacock Colliery was operated by Charles Lawton from 1836 to 1848 and by Mr. Parvin from 1848 to 1852 when it was abandoned. It was located west of Saint Clair.

Thus, we see, throughout the history of the town, periods of prosperity and depression follow the activity and inactivity of the various coal operations.

Saint Clair has the distinction of having the first United Mine Workers Union in the United States. This union was organized about 1869 by Mr. John Siney, Sr. It was a welfare organization to take care of the victims of mine fatalities.

MINERS SUPPLIES — The Miners Supply Company of Saint Clair was engaged in the manufacturing of squibs used by miners in

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firing blasts. The idea was first suggested to S. H. Daddow by Jesse Beadle. The invention was perfected and patented and a manufacturing plant was erected. The squibs were made and packed by hand; all the work was done by women.

In 1883 George Hayes opened a squib factory located at the corner of Hancock and Nicholas Streets and at the corner of Morris and Hancock Streets. The former was destroyed by fire in 1888. After a period of sixty-two years the Daddow & Beadle Company ceased operation in 1928.

MINERS CAP FACTORY — The Lattimer Cap Factory was established by S. H. Daddow at Nicholas and Patterson Streets for the maufacture of miners' caps which held a patented attachment for the miners' light. Nine-tenths of all miners' caps used in the United States and Mexico were manufactured in the Lattimer Cap Factory.

SHOVEL MANUFACTURING PLANT — In 1871 Mr. Bowen established a Shovel Manufacturing Plant on Third Street near Renner's Blacksmith Shop also a plant near Mettam's Lumber Yard. Shovels for the use of miners were manufactured.

BOX FACTORY — Between 1870 and 1880 the S. H. Daddow Box Factory was established. Paper and wood boxes for miners' squibs were manufactured. This industry ended with the passing of the demand for squibs.

THE BRASS FOUNDRY — In 1875 the Brass Foundry was established by Peter P. Quirin where machinery was made and repaired and brass work was a specialty. The shop closed in 1931. It was located on South Nicholas Street. Edmund Quirin now conducts a Machine Shop on Hancock Street.

SAINT CLAIR FURNACE — In 1842 Burd Patterson began the construction of the Blast Furnace. It produced iron from iron ore. It ceased to operate in 1873.

TAILOR SHOPS — In early times Adam Kline conducted a tailor shop on South Second Street. Also George Keiter and Mr. Curley were engaged in this business. Mr. Paser of Morris Street is the town tailor and also Mr. Aggon in the Tierney property on Carroll Street is engaged in tailoring at the present.

HAT SHOPS — In years gone by Hattie Wasley's, Merrick's, and Dolly Covely's hat shops were noted for the making of fine hats for women. Pearson's and Brown's are the leading hat shops at present.

BLACKSMITH SHOPS — The outstanding blacksmiths in the town who conducted their own shops were Adam Richter, George Denning, Elmer Neumeister, Wm. and Charles Stephenson and August Renner. William Renner conducts his shop at the present time on Third Street.

CONFECTIONERY STORES — Candy manufacturing was first carried on by Nicholas and John Wellner and George Gwinner whose ice cream and candy were unsurpassed.

BAKERIES — In former years the leading bakeries in the town were conducted by George Gwinner, North Second Street, Theodore Hughes, South Second Street, and Jacob Brown, North Nicholas Street. At present the Silver Bakery, Mahoney, and Roudenbush have charge of the business.

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HISTORY OF SAINT CLAIR 1850 — 1950

CARPET WEAVING — Years ago carpet weaving was carried on by Michael Brown, North Nicholas Street, and by William Morris, North Mill Street.

MEAT INDUSTRY — Former well known meat dealers were Meinhold, Schmeltzer, O'Donnell, Arnout, Lookingbill, Wurster, Swain, and Crosby.

ICE INDUSTRY — A half century ago, during the winter months, Charles and John Ferrebee cut the ice on Silver Creek Dam and placed it in storage to be delivered in the summer to the people in this vicinity.

As representative in the State Legislature at Harrisburg, Charles Ferrebce served this district for several terms.

In 1921 the present ice manufacturing plant was established by Joseph Grosskettler and Burton Davis. It is now operated by Manbeck of Schuylkill Haven.

SAINT CLAIR DAIRY — In 1922 the first pasteurizing plant was organized by Edward Honicker and Walter Stephens. At prcsent this business is operated by Clair Honicker on North Front Street.

SHIRT FACTORIES — In former years Saint Clair had three shirt factories. The Everett Shirt Factory was on the corner of Second and Franklin Streets. The Washuta garage and bowling alley has replaced the factory. The Frackville Manufacturing Co. was located on Third Street. This factory was destroyed by fire many years ago. The H. D. Bob Shirt Factory was located on the corner of Morris and Railroad Streets. It has discontinued the manufacture of shirts.

PRESENT FACTORIES — The Podway Factory, on the corner of Morris and Railroad Streets now manufactures women's dresses.

The School House Factory, on North Front Street manufactures children's dresses.

The B. Z. Factory on North Second Street manufactures blouses.

The Betack Factory, Third and Carroll Streets, are engaged in making women's dresses and blouses.

TRANSPORTATION — Since transportation depended upon good roads in this era road improvement advanced from footpaths to modern concrete boulevards completely lighted.

In the early days due to the narrowness and roughness of the so called roads, horseback riding was the only means of transportation. The first road was the Sunbury Road established in 1770. This ran between Sunbury and Reading. Due to improvements on the road, wagons were used for hauling. Old timers will recall the livery stables of Joseph Brady and Ferrebee Brothers from which funeral coaches, cutters and wagons for hay rides could be rented. In 1811 the stage coach became very useful carrying passengers and some freight from Saint Clair to Philadelphia, and in 1845 it carried the mail between Pottsville and Saint Clair. In 1826 railroads were built and began to supplant the stage coach. The first being the Danville-Pottsville Railroad Company. This railroad had a track mileage of 47 miles and ran from Mount Carbon to Dark Water via Pottsville over Nicholas Street to Wadesville. In 1829 Mill Creek Railroad was built from Port Carbon to the southern limits of the borough. In 1845 Philadelphia and Reading Railroad extended their

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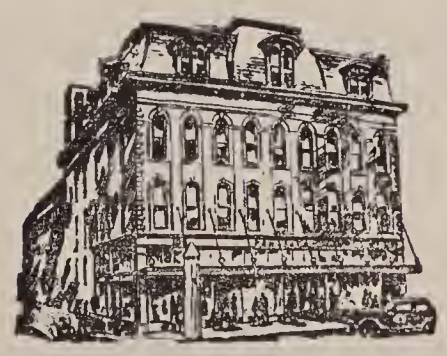

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tracks through Saint Clair to New Castle. In 1862 the Mahanoy Broad Mountain Railroad was built and connected its lines at the terminal of Mill Creek Railroad at New Castle. This was important for transporting coal through the community.

In 1913 the largest classified gravity coal yards of the world were built in Saint Clair on the site of a large swamp. It was and is one of the greatest factors in the transportation of anthracite coal. In 1887 the Pennsylvania Railroad was operated for the first time.

TROLLEYS — The first one known as the "long line" began operation August 10, 1894 and ran to Pottsville via Mill Creek. In 1915 the "short line" began operating running through East Mines to Pottsville. Later on the Shenandoah trolley began operating between Shenandoah and Pottsville.

From this period and on through the years Saint Clair was connected with all towns in the county, and Mauch Chunk and Lansford outside the county. As residents became owners of automobiles the use of trolleys declined and it became obvious that rail lines could operate more cheaply by buses. Therefore bus lines came into use. The Reading Lines were first in Saint Clair May 27, 1928. East Penn, the Transportation Company in 1932, finally replaced the trolley cars. Also the Schuylkill Railway Bus Company began operation after it abandoned its trolley. Today, together with our local bus lines we have "Lakes To Seas" operating through town from New York to Cleveland. The Capitol Bus Lines furnish transportation between Harrisburg and Saint Clair, and the Trailways owned by the Capitol Bus Lines furnish it to all points west in the United States.

Taxi service is also available to nearby towns and throughout the town

FINANCIAL PHASE — The Citizens Bank of Saint Clair was chartered March 16, 1904. It opened for business in the George W. Gwinner property on North Second Street. In 1907 the bank was moved to a $45,000 building at 39 North Second Street.

The Saint Clair State Bank was chartered August 14, 1919. It opened for business in the Holmes Building on South Second Street. In February, 1925 it moved to the largest edifice in the borough, corner of Second and Carroll Streets.

The above institutions were merged in March, 1932 and in March 4, 1933 this merged bank was closed due to the National Bank Holiday declared by President Roosevelt. After a period of liquidation, a new bank, the present Peoples Safe Deposit Bank, was established.

Saving Funds and Building Associations had a long history in Saint Clair.

The Union Saving Fund and Building Association was organized in 1869 with 2,200 shares and had receipts of $3,250 monthly. The Saint Clair Saving Fund and Building Association was organized in 1867 with 1400 shares and had receipts of $1,300 monthly.

Our Town Building and Loan Association was organized in 1909. It provided finances for many Saint Clair homes and for many shareholders to save money.

The above organizations have been liquidated in 1950.

STORES — Grocery and general stores served the needs of the settlers of the town at a very early date. Ransloe Boone opened a store

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PINE GROVE, PENNA.

at Second and Franklin Streets about 1869. David W. Lewes established a store at a very early date on the present site of the Swain residence. Thatcher's grocery store was a prosperous establishment at Second and Hancock Street, site of Super's store, now the Rosensweig Store. Some other early stores were J. R. Williams, Dawson's, Schully's, Jos. Jones and Neiman's, now the Esso Station, Second and Lawton Streets.

Saint Clair at its centennial date has stores which handle practically everything to supply the needs of its inhabitants. There still are many independent grocers but the chain stores do a fine retail business in the community.

Potts Brothers are distributors of several well known brands of candies.

HOTELS — In 1829 John Burgett started a boarding house for laborers working on the Girard Tunnel. The tent that he used gave place to a small frame tavern which he called "Cross Keys". This was the first public house in the village. Daniel Frack built a tavern in 1831 at the corner of Third and Hancock Streets. The third tavern in Saint Clair was built in 1844 by Jacob Metz and was the borough's first voting place. H. H. Marshall later took over the Metz tavern. John Taggart soon after 1844 built a hotel on the present site of the Boone Building, corner of Second and Carroll Streets. The Commercial Hotel on the present site of the Schuylkill Supply Store followed shortly after.

Saint Clair had many other public houses since the 80's but has not any hotel in 1950 which can accommodate transients or tourists. The public houses of today are places of recreation and to serve meals. We have many confectionery stores which serve soft drinks, ice cream, and serve as recreation for our young folks.

The State Liquor Store has headquarters on Carroll Street in the Peoples Safe Deposit Bank Building.

POST OFFICE — Saint Clair had a post office in 1845, before it became a borough. The mail was carried by stage to and from Pottsville. John Breadon was the owner of the first stage coach. Tony Irvin was the first stage driver. The first postmaster was James Brown. The present postmater is James Monahan.

In 1860, a telegraph office was located within the building of the post office.

The present post office is on Carroll Street in the Peoples Safe Deposit Bank Building.

Mail comes into the town by railroad and bus. We have free delivery to our homes.

THE PRESS — The press took shape in Saint Clair in the late 80's. The popularity of the Holmes Printing Shop was known throughout Schuylkill County. This shop published, prior to 1913, the "Splinters", the town's first newspaper, which was printed by William Stocks.

The Beaumont Printing establishment was a competitor of Holmes at this time.

Edward R. Scherr took over the Holmes printing shop nd published the Saint Clair Bulletin. Charles L. Weller helped to edit and set type for this paper.

James P. Kelly purchased most of the Scherr printing machines and opened his own shop in South Front Street. He published several issues

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of Saint Clair news in 1925, which soon folded up due to lack of subscribers. The same fate befell "Our Town—Saint Clair" in 1928.

The Kelly Printing Company is known throughout the county in 1950.

The town is now supplied by city dailies and two county newspapers, the Pottsville Republican and the Pottsville Journal. All the latest magazines are sold throughout the town at the various shops.

FIRE DEPARTMENT — The first hose company was organized in 1867 and was known as Hope Hose Company No. 1. It reorganized in 1880.

The Columbia Hose Company No. 2 was organized in 1868 and is the oldest company in the borough. It was organized in a small house near the present site of the George Boote residence.

Paul Hirst_____President
Eugene Berdanier_____Vice-President
William Betz_____Treasurer

The charter members were John Bosche, Nicholas Neider, Lewis Krebs, Edwin Brown, and Joseph Cox. This company had the second oldest hand carriage in Schuylkill County.

The company built a hose house on Front and Lawton Streets in 1893 which burned down in 1922 but was rebuilt by 1927. The company was motorized in 1920.

The Alert Fire Company No. 1, after petitioning council to turn over the equipment of the Old Hope Company organized in 1883 celebrated its 50 years of service in 1933.

John Brown_____President
John Schuster_____Vice-President
Louis Farne_____Secretary
A. G. Evans_____Asst. Secretary
William M. Mathews_____Treasurer

The company purchased a house in 1884 and in 1889 erected a new house. It purchased a chemical wagon in 1902, an auto truck in 1911, and an ambulance wagon in 1919. A Mack Truck was purchased in 1944.

The town's ambulance is housed in the Alert Fire Company building.

The Rescue Hook and Ladder Company No. 3 was organized in 1898 at the W. W. Thorn home. The first officers were president W. W. Thorn, Vice-President William Stephenson, Secretary P. F. Lundy, Treasurer T. G. Jones.

Council permitted the company to use the town hall for storage of apparatus. A plot of ground was purchased on North Second Street for $100 from W. A. Boone and a building erected in 1904 at a cost of $9,750. Borough council bought the ladder truck in 1898. Another truck was purchased in 1922.

The Phoenix Fire Company No. 4 of East Mines and the Independent Hose Company No. 1 on Diener's Hill complete the town's fire department.

Members of all companies serve gratis and are doing a marvelous job of fire protection in the town. Several years ago Saint Clair had the lowest loss through fire per capita of any community in Pennsylvania.

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HISTORY OF SAINT CLAIR 1850 — 1950

MILITARY PHASE — Saint Clair can be justly proud of its military history. It has always been first to answer the call to service. In the past hundred years she has participated in all of the conflicts of our nation. Her name, Saint Clair, was given in honor of General Saint Clair Nicholas who was famous during the Revolutionary War.

During the Civil War she gave the greatest percentage in Schuylkill County. The Wetherill Rifles under Captain Edward Farne were the carliest to respond to President Lincoln's call. In the Spanish-American War a company of 105 men became Company K 8th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. During World War I Saint Clair sent to the armed forces 366 men. Of these 17 made the supreme sacrifice. They were: Michael Dudash, Herbert Baldwin, William Montalto, Kenneth Davis, Robert Barnes, Michael Brennan, Nicholas Touce, William Gregg, Joseph De Lellis, Louis De Angelo, John Hebor, Frederick Hossler, James Kelly, Peter Polifka, John Quinn, Edward Boyer, John Stankewicz.

The first county man killed in France was Michael Dudash from Saint Clair. The only county man on the torpedoed Tuscania was John Buchanan from Saint Clair. Five women all Red Cross Nurses served in that war. They were: Jeanette Barrett, Brigetta Benonis, Anna Stine, Bertha Williams, and Esther Maley.

In World War II, we sent to our armed forces more than 1500 men and women, of which 46 made the supreme sacrifice. They were:

Ball, William	Flannery, Robert M.	Lutzkanin, Samuel
Benkel, Joseph V.	Gondorchin, George	Melkonich, John
Budnar, Peter	Goodman, Robert B.	Mick, Joseph
Boyer, Kenneth L.	Havron, John	Monahan, Francis J.
Branz, Lawrence	Higgins, Edward H.	O'Brien, Edward J.
Chalko, Joseph A.	Houseknecht, James E.	Pinkus, August E.
Cherry, Anthony A.	Houseknecht, James V.	Post, John B.
Colna, Elmer P.	Hughes, Rev. John	Reading, Warren C.
Colna, John A.	Hunter, David	Reynolds, Charles
Coyle, Joseph M.	Karmazin, George J.	Roark, James
Cremia, Vincent J.	Kerns, Patrick F. Jr.	Rogers, Clyde L.
Dedinsky, John	Kostrey, George H.	Starr, Raymond
Doyle, Michael	Kotubey, George	Stencovich, John
Evans, Bruce	Kralick, Joseph G.	Tomcavage, Leonard
Fatula, Andrew	Kubeika, Michael E.	Uhrin, George P.
		Wisnosky, Paul

Two "home coming" celebrations have been held for our veterans of both World Wars. The first was Thanksgiving Day, November 27, 1919 and the second July 4, 1946.

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HISTORY OF SAINT CLAIR 1850 — 1950

CHURCHES — From earliest times the Church has been an important factor in our community. Several of the churches are older than the borough itself and some of the pastors have served more than a quarter of a century.

The Saint Clair Primitive Methodist Church — erected in 1847, was the first church built in town. Rev. A. Miller was the pastor at this time. Rev. Mervin K. Ruth is the present clergyman.

The Holy Apostles Church — was dedicated in 1847 with the Rev. D. Washburn as minister. Rev. John R. Ramsay is the present clergyman.

The Methodist Episcopal Church — was organized in 1848 under the pastorate of Rev. J. D. Bowen. Rev. Robert L. Curry presides over this congregation at this time.

St. John's Reformed and Evangelical Congregation — was organized in 1853 by Rev. Gautenbein. The present pastor is Rev. George C. Hosler.

St. Boniface German Catholic Church — built in 1853 was an early church constructed in the town with Rev. Wincellaus Joames Repis, the first pastor. Rev. Vincent J. Hillanbrand, of Philadelphia is now in charge.

St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church — was built in 1863 with Rev. James A. Brehony as rector. Rev. James J. McClosky, the present pastor, has served this parish almost thirty years. Rev. John J. Feeser is the assistant rector.

The Baptist Church — was organized in 1870 under Rev. A. H. Sembower. The late Rev. T. D. Morris served this congregation for thirty-seven years. Rev. George R. Price is the present clergyman.

St. Michael's Greek Catholic Russian Orthodox Church — was organized in 1897 under Rev. N. Mulchany. The present pastor, the Rev. A. S. Slepecky, has served this congregation for over twenty years.

St. Mary's Immaculate Conception Church — "Dormer's", was erected in 1903 under the direction of Father Schaff. The present clergyman in charge is Rev. Michael Sirak.

St. Nicholas Greek Catholic Church — North Morris Street, originated from St. Michael's Church, and was erected in 1905 with Rev. Levitskey as pastor. Rev. Paul Graskow is now in charge.

Saint Peter's and Paul's Polish Church — was organized in 1906 under the leadership of Rev. Olishienski. At present the interests of this parish are taken care of by Rev. Kopec.

Saint John's Slovak Lutheran Church — was organized in 1907 by Rev. L. Sanjek. Rev. Janisek recently resigned his pastorate and the church is at present served by supply pastors.

St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church — located at Nicholas and Lawton Streets was built in 1907. The first clergyman was Rev. Michael Fekula. The Very Rev. Kuharsky is the present pastor.

Saint Casimer's Lithuanian Church — was organized in 1912 under Rev. Dumcus. Rev. Peter Laumakas is the present pastor.

The Slovak Presbyterian Church — was organized in 1920 by Rev. George Bardarik who served this congregation continuously for thirty years. This charge is now being served by supply ministers.

St. John's Ukrainian Greek Church — North Mill Street, was organized in 1921 under the supervision of Rev. Strotsky. The present pastor is Rev. Jeremiah Onuferko.

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SYNOPSIS OF EPISODES

WELCOME — BICYCLE PATROL

The Saint Clair Bicycle Club sponsored by the Police Department is under the supervision of Joseph Kaminsky. They perform a drill showing their skill as cyclists.

PROLOGUE

The youth of our city assemble to pay homage to her majesty, Miss Saint Clair, the QUEEN OF THE CENTURY. The U. S. A. girls form an avenue through which the youth of our city pass. Next the American Girl Scouts arrive to greet our Queen. Then follow the American Jackies and the Red, White, and Blue Girls.

EPISODE I: A SCHUYLKILL INDIAN VILLAGE

Very few indians made the area around Saint Clair their permanent home. The Delaware River on the east and the Susquehanna River on the west afforded greater attractions for the natives. This region was, however, visited by many hunting parties because of the abundance of game. Here we see a typical band of Indians as they go about their many tasks in establishing their temporary camp.

EPISODE II: MEETING IN PHILADELPHIA

Early in the year 1749, a grand council of six nations at Onondaga sent a deputation of chiefs from each of these nations to Philadelphia. This deputation met with the white men and defined the boundaries of their hunting grounds. A deed was executed by these representatives conveying large areas of Pennsylvania to the white men. Their remuneration was 500 pounds of "lawful money of Pennsylvania."

EPISODE III: EARLY SETTLEMENT IN SAINT CLAIR

The first settlement in what is now Saint Clair was made by Michael Boechtel in 1800 in the section which is now Arnots Addition. He was closely followed by John Malone, John Burgett, and the Nichols family. Here we see a group of the early settlers as they arrived at the location of their new home

EPISODE IV: EARLY PRIMITIVE MINING IN SAINT CLAIR

Rich coal veins were discovered in Saint Clair in 1824. It was not until 1830, however, that the first regular coal operations were started In those days coal mining was not aided by the large machines of today. The strong arm and back were the main means of obtaining Pennsylvania's "black gold."

EPISODE V: RELIGION IN THE EARLY DAYS

The first church organized in town was the Primitive Methodist. It was organized in 1831 with Rev. William Sanders as its first pastor. Their first meetings were held in the old schoolhouse in the borough cemetery. Here we see one of the early services conducted by Rev. Sanders.

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SYNOPSIS OF EPISODES

EPISODE VI: EDUCATION IN EARLY SAINT CLAIR

In 1834 private schools were established by several families. The first public school came into existence in 1838. This scene depicts Benjamin Jackson, first public school teacher, and one of his early classes.

EPISODE VII: SAINT CLAIR IS INCORPORATED

1850 was a great year for the borough of Saint Clair. Prior to this year Saint Clair was known as Saint Clairville, a village of Norwegian Township. On April 6, 1950, Governor William Johnson signed the act of incorporation which made Saint Clair a borough. On May 9, 1850, the men of Saint Clair gathered for the first election of town council members. Jacob Metz was elected president. Other members were: Michael Reilley, John Williams, Jacob Frantz, and John May.

EPISODE VIII: FAREWELL BALL FOR UNION DRAFTEES

SCENE I — Pennsylvania furnished the greatest quota of all states for the Union Army. Schuylkill County furnished the largest average of Pennsylvanians. Saint Clair responded with the greatest percentage in Schuylkill County. Here we see a farewell ball given for the Wetherill Rifles, who served under Captain Edward Farne.

SCENE II — In recognition of the fact that Saint Clair had the largest percentage of soldiers in the war, General Grant presented the famous Vicksburg Cane to the Borough of Saint Clair through Richard Brown. This cane was made from a branch of the tree under which Lee surrendered to Grant at Appamattox.

EPISODE IX: FOURTH OF JULY PICNIC—1900

These were the gay days in our national life. Bicycles, buggies, bustles, bands and bally-hoo were at their height. The horseless carriage made its appearance and was practically laughed off the road. THOSE WERE THE DAYS ! !

EPISODE X: NEW SETTLERS

The twentieth century found a shift in the national origin of settlers in Saint Clair. Prior to this time the population of this town was made up almost entirely of immigrants from the British Isles and Germany. In order to enjoy religious, political, and economic freedom, natives of Central, Southern, and Eastern Europe began coming to Saint Clair.

EPISODE XI: SALUTE TO THE MEN OF BOTH WARS

SCENE I: IN FLANDER'S FIELD
SCENE II: IWO JIMA

The nations of the world engaged in two great conflicts. Saint Clair sent her boys to gain two great victories.

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Joan Dellock
Teresa Sandrock
Peggy Ann Jewell
Dolly Condrack
Margaret Grace
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Joan Miller
Sophie Chewcaskie
Kathleen Holden
Bernice Symons
Mary Quirin
Betty Hoehn
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Joan Betz
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PROLOGUE

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HISTORY OF SAINT CLAIR 1850 — 1950

Saint Mary's Greek Catholic Church — was organized in 1925 under Rev. Stefen Petrick. This parish is now being served by Rev. Ivan Tylawsky.

EDUCATION — In the realm of education, Saint Clair has always been progressive and at a very early date schools were established. In 1834 private schools were established by several families, among which were the Evans, Nichols, Burgett and French families.

The first public school was established in 1838, and was taught by Benjamin Jackson of Catawissa. This building was located in the borough Cemetery and was used as a school and a church.

In 1846 the Creek School House was erected with P. D. Burnett and William Porter as teachers.

In 1862 a brick building was completed on Nicholas Street during the term of Louis Reese president of the board of education.

In 1870 a building was erected on the John Rudd site on north Nicholas Street. At this time there were 500 pupils enrolled and a teaching staff of 12 members.

In 1873 the "Town Clock" school was erected on Mill Street between Railroad and Patterson Streets.

In 1892 the Creek School house was rebuilt and this new building was used as the high school until a structure was erected in 1909 at the Corner of Mill and Carroll Streets. In 1922 an addition was added providing more class rooms and an auditorium. In 1927 the building was further enlarged. This was the high school building until 1938 when the new high school was erected on the site of the "Town Clock Building". This building contains one of the finest gymnasiums in the state.

In 1893 the first parochial school was established by the St. Boniface Parish. In 1914 St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church constructed a $30,000 edifice for school purposes.

At the present time educational activities are centered in the Public Junior Senior High School on South Mill Street; the first six grades and kindergarten in the Carroll Street Building and both Parochial Schools. At the present time a new course of study, "Education for Life Adjustment", has been introduced into the elementary grades.

Members of the high school faculty are working with the State Department, other school Districts, and members of college faculties in revision of the secondary curriculum to fit into the above philosophy of education.

The outstanding leaders in education in the community were Richard Brown, a Civil War veteran, who probably was the first high school principal; T. G. Jones, who for 52 years was an energetic, progressive and efficient leader of education in this community. He retired in 1922 and 3 years later he "crossed the bar" as he himself termed death. W. J. Evans became grammar school principal in 1904. In 1905 he succeeded W. W. Wood as grammar school principal of the "Town Clock Building". In 1909 he became principal of the high school succeeding T. G. Jones, and in 1922 was elected supervising principal. Under his supervision the schools were regarded in 8 grades, and the high school changed from a 3 year high to 4 year high school. This made Saint Clair High School a first class high school. He installed and organized the school library which became one of the most effective school libraries in the entire county. This library was financed for 16 years by W. W. Taylor and

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wife owners of the Saint Clair Coal Company. In January 1928 he became County Prothonotary after 25 years of service.

C. R. Birch, the present superintendent assumed his office in 1928 after having been a teacher for 2½ years and high school principal for 2 years. He was 6 years supervising principal and in 1936 when Saint Clair became an independent district he was made the first superintendent of the district. During his regime many changes in accordance with modern educational practices, have transpired. Science and guidance were added in the elementary grades. The secondary curriculm has been enlarged from 3 departments, academic, commercial, and general, to manual arts and home economics. The Physical Education program has been reorganized to meet the requirements of the State Department for a 4 year high school. Two full time physical education instructors have been added to the faculty also 2 full librarians, a school nurse, doctor, and dentist. The most recent and progressive step is the establishment of a kindergarten. Student government became active under the organization of a Student Council under the direction of Miss Margaret Ray. The music Department was augmented by the addition of a band, orchestra, and instrumental instructor, boys' and girls' glee club and choruses, with outstanding vocal presentations.

In 1949 the site for outdoor athletics at the corner of Nicholas and Franklin Street has been thoroughly graded, seeded and enclosed. When equipped with bleachers and a field house it will be one of the most beautiful stadiums in Pennsylvania.

Each year the graduating class presents its activities over a period of 4 years in a book entitled the "Clairian" named for Saint Clair.

Tribute is due to teachers who have performed long and distinguished service in our school system, and who have passed on.

THE PRESENT FACULTY IS:

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Mrs. Margaret J. Schraedly, Clerk
Mrs. Emily E. Gibson, Music Supervisor
Thoms L. Jennings, Instrumental Music
Albert C. Alessi, Art Supervisor
Marie F. Brady, School Nurse

THE HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY:

Ellwood S. Bodenhorn, Principal, Chemistry
Katherine M. Beck, Problems of Democracy, English
Esther A. Botzer, World History, American History
David G. Evans, English and Eighth Grade History
Elsie G. Flail, Commercial Subjects
Edna L. Harrison, Homemaking
Anna L. Lundy, English and Seventh Grade History
Mary S. McGarrity, Latin, Algebra, Commercial Arithmetic
Louise M. Meinhold, Library, Library Science
Charles A. Miller, Boys' Physical Education and Health
Mary E. Monahan, English
Francis N. Mooney, Plane Geometry, General Science, Mechanical Drawing
John Reese, Civics, American History
Alfred D. Roberts, 8th and 9th Grade Mathematics
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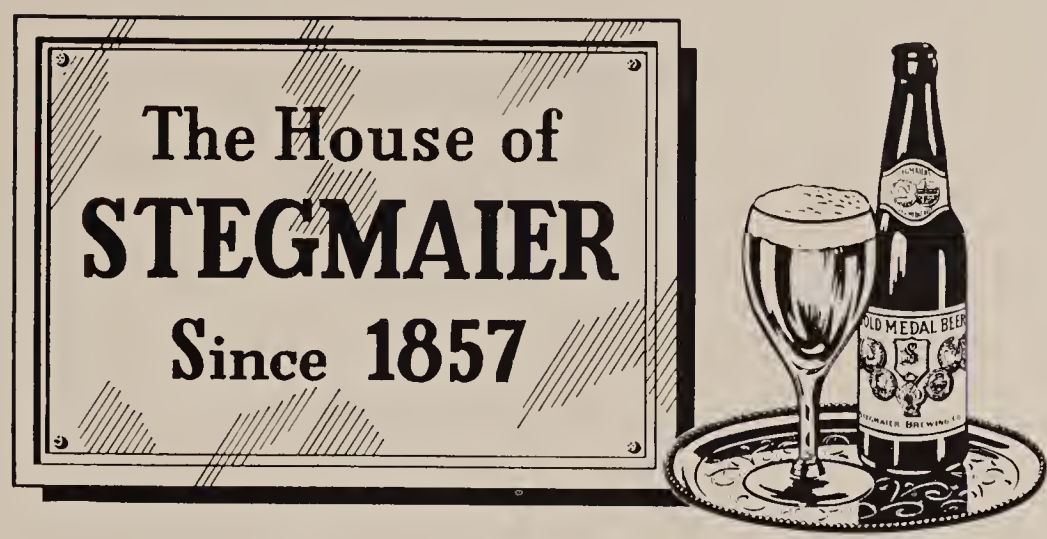

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HISTORY OF SAINT CLAIR 1850 — 1950

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Mildred Thorn, Girls' Physical Education and Health
Francis E. Welker, Physics, Biology, General Science
Henry J. Zale, Industrial Arts

THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FACULTY:
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Violet G. Gorman, Kindergarten
Bessie G. Beese, Grade 1
Eleanor R. MacDonald, Grade 1
Mary Ann Simons, Grade 2
Margaret Barrett, Grade 2
Emma L. Foster, Grade 3
Ruth C. Weber, Grade 3
Faith B. Wright, Grade 4
Emma L. Foster, Grade 4
Elizabeth Clifford, Grade 5
Jean Roberts, Grade 5
Mrs. Emma H. Wagner, Library, Library Science, Substitute Teacher
Bessie M. Eagen, Grade 6
Martha I. Moser, Grade 6

PROFESSIONS — Saint Clair considering the size of its population is well represented in all professions.

The first physician in the town was Doctor Senderling, followed by Doctors Corryell, Halbauer, Dunlop, Price, Smith and Carr. In more recent years Doctors R. T. Weaver, Harry Davis, J. P. Morris, John T. Ryan, R. F. Weaver, Dr. Vas Stien and Dr. Dayre augmented the list of physcians.

The present doctors in 1950 are Doctors E. T. Jones, E. T. Ryscavage, Charles Delp and Anton Miller.

Dr. R. F. Weaver and Dr. E. T. Jones served in World War I. Drs. Ryscavage, Miller, and Delp served in World War II.

Many men who were born, reared and educated in Saint Clair are commendable doctors and dentists in other communities. Among this number are two exceptionally noted physicians. Dr. Joel T. Boone was the White House doctor during three administrations and has recently been made a Rear Admiral. For very sentimental reasons Dr. Joel Boone maintains Saint Clair as his official residence. The town paid tribute to its first citizen in the High School Gymnasium in 1949, when he was named a Pennsylvania Ambassador. Dr. Claude Beck is a well-known research worker and at present the Professor of Surgery at Western Reserve Medical School. He is a heart and brain specialist. In a poll of votes, the past two years, Dr. Beck has been voted among the first twenty leading citizens of Cleveland.

As far back as can be traced, Saint Clair has had five dentists, Dr. Berger, Dr. Kantner, Dr. Buchanan, now in Easton, and the present resident dentists, Dr. R. G. Gould and Dr. Zerde.

The first druggist in the borough was William Bauer, followed by I. H. Irvin, Harry Davis, Harry Gwinner, William Collihan. The pharmacists, David Buchanan and John W. Smith, serve the community now.

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Mr. Charles Bretz was the town's first undertaker. He was followed by Edward and Fred Koch, Kyran Monahan, now his son Edmund, Walter Morgan, Arthur Roman, Michael Collihan, James Evans, George Stabingas, and Charles Premich.

Educative sentiment has produced many teachers and several have taught on college faculties — Professor Benjamin Griffith at Bucknell University, Professor Haydn Jones of Chicago University, and Professor George Farne of Lehigh University.

The first lawyers of Saint Clair were Joseph Brown, Charles Breckons, Milton J. Boone, and T. A. McCarthy. The present one is Raymond R. Monahan.

Several lawyers born in Saint Clair have offices elsewhere, Jeremiah Mahoney, James Thompson, Elwyn Jones, and Harry Lightstone.

Mention should be made of the town's many men and women who have devoted their lives to the work of the church and to the number who have entered the nursing profession. Space and the possibility of missing a name does not permit the roll call of this noble group who give such unselfish service to alleviate the suffering of human beings.

This chapter of professions should not be closed unless some mention is made of Captain James Francis Carter, Saint Clair's only son to be graduated from the naval academy at Annapolis. He was born in town in 1869, received his early education here, and entered the teaching profession in Blythe Township. In 1887 Congressman Brumm received for him an appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Captain Carter graduated with high honors in 1891. He received many distinctions and awards throughout his career, the last of which was the "croix de Guerre" for meritorious work in World War I.

CULTURAL ATTAINMENTS — Saint Clair has had several fine musical organizations since its incorporation as a borough in 1850.

The first musical organization was the Union Cornet Band of 1862 with 19 instruments. It reorganized in 1871 and was chartered in 1873. The charter members were: Jacob Schoppe, Asher Haines, August Loeper, August Schlottman, William Badge, Jacob Post, and Joe Wise.

The next band organized was known as the Citizens' Band under the direction of Samuel H. Lee.

A few years later, acting as a leader, August Schlottman organized the Schlottman Band.

In 1884, Peter Schuster, Elmer Boyer, and James Tucker organized the Perseverance Band with William H. Badge as director. This band had 27 members but later disbanded.

Samuel H. Lee reorganized and directed this old Perseverance Band.

The American Legion Band was organized in 1933 with 33 members.

The town also had a few other bands: Joe George's Band of 28 members, The Emerald Band directed by Joe George, The Polish Band directed by Elam Jenkins, Geisweit's Band directed by George Geisweit of Wadesville.

Saint Clair also had several united choirs and choruses which have shown the culture and talent of our town.

The Excelsior chorus was organized about 1890 with a membership of 60 voices directed by Professor David Williams. It remained active for about 25 years. This chorus competed successfully in musical contests

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In 1915 the last officers were Richard Birch, treasurer, and Edward Scherr, secretary, still under the leadership of Professor Williams.

The old United Choir met in Super's Hall between 1908-1915. It was composed of 68 members directed by Professor David Williams, one of the best choir directors in Schuylkill County. This choir competed in contests at Scranton, Wilkes-Barre, and Pottsville.

Through the past 100 years of Saint Clair's history, it has had many church choirs which have added to the town's cultural attainments. At the present time, the Russian Choir of Saint Michael's Greek Catholic Church under the directorship of Mr. John Shandor has won recognition for its musical attainment and carries on the tradition that Saint Clair has always been musically inclined.

LODGES — From earliest times this community was interested in the welfare of its citizens and endeavored to build, by various methods, high standards of character and Americanism.

To attain this end Lodges were organized which functioned under church direction or by their own membership.

These Lodges included: The Independent Order of Odd Fellows, The Masonic Organization, The Patriotic Order of Americans, The Ivorites, St Michael's Of The I. C. B. W., The Ancient Order Of Hibernians, Order Of Independent Americans, Knights Of Saint George.

The I. O. O. F. — The Mineral Lodge, No. 285, I. O. O. F. was organized in 1848. This Lodge purchased of John Holmes four acres of land for a cemetery. In 1866 it was chartered under the name of Odd Fellows Cemetery Association of the borough of Saint Clair. The I. O. O. F. Lodge Hall is on South Second Street. Three Link Club is its social organization.

The Masonic Organization — The Anthracite Lodge No. 285 of the Free and Accepted Masons was organized in 1853. The Masonic Lodge Hall is at 41 North Second Street. Blue Ribbon Club is the Masonic Social Organization. About thirty years ago Kalmia Chapter No. 261 Order of the Eastern Star was organized in this community for social and welfare purposes.

The P. O. S. Of A. — Washington Camp No. 75, Patriotic Order Of Sons Of America, organized in 1867 as Patriotic Order Junior Sons Of America and was re-chartered in 1879 as Washington Camp No. 75, P. O. S. Of A

The Ivorites — Bee Lodge No. 1 of Ivorites, a Welch group, was organized in 1863. It ceased to function in the early eighties.

Saint Michael's of the I. C. B. W. — Saint Michael's Benevolent Society No. 206 of the I. C. B. W. was organized in 1870.

Division No. 9, A. O. H. — Division No. 9, A. O. H. was organized in 1889. Rev. John J. O'Connor had the distinction of being the first priest to become a member of the A. O. H. in Schuylkill County.

The Order Of Independent Americans — Saint Clair Council No. 933, Order of Independent Americans was organized in 1896. This Lodge ceased to function several years ago.

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HISTORY OF SAINT CLAIR 1850 — 1950

Knights Of Saint George — The Knights of Saint George, Branch No. 129, was organized in 1910 with Rev. Albert M. Korves, Spiritual Adviser.

CLUBS — Social clubs and welfare organizations have, and are contributing to the social well-being of the community.

MILLIONAIRES — Harry T. Plappert, Jr. in 1925 conceived the idea of forming an organization of young men to represent and advertise Saint Clair in other communities by competing in the mummer's parades. The boys were uniformly successful carrying off many prizes in their hobo suits in nearby towns and in 1928 won honors in Philadelphia's New Year's Pageant. For several years the Millionaires conducted a very successful mummer's parade in Saint Clair. The club numbered about 50 and had a fife and drum corps. Most of the boys of this club answered the call of their country in World War II and it has passed out of existence.

During all wars the town has had a Red Cross Unit which carried on the drives and took care of soldiers' needs as well as their families. A great deal of welfare work is being carried on at present by the Salvation Army under local supervision.

THE P. T. A. — was organized to look after the welfare of our school children. It has done and is doing splendid work within the schools and has organized 3 Girl Scout Troups and 3 Brownie Troops.

The P. T. A. Theme for this centennial year is "Know Your School." It meets the last Monday of the month in the Carroll Street Auditorium. Space does not permit enumerating the projects it has sponsored for our children.

THE KIWANIS CLUB — is a welfare organization which was organized by the professional and business men of Saint Clair. Its project is to look after underprivileged children of the community. The club, while fostering the social life of its members by meeting every Tuesday around the dinner table in the P. M. Church Social Hall, takes an active part in all the town activities, particularly the interests of our Youth.

THE WOMAN'S CLUB — is a welfare organization formed by the women from all walks of life in the town. It meets the second Monday of every month in the Social Hall of the Presbyterian Church. The theme for this centennial year is "Better Living Through Better Homes." This club, too, while fostering good fellowship among its members, does much charitable work thru donations to orphans' homes, Red Cross, crippled children, Salvation Army, Tuberculosis Society, and by sending a C. A. R. E. package monthly to Europe the past several years. It too participates in all the town's activities.

VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS — Following every war, the veterans form an organization to keep up fellowship and look after the needs of unfortunate veterans and their families.

The Civil War veterans organized John Ennis Post of Saint Clair under the jurisdiction of the national G. A. R. This organization erected a monument in the Odd Fellows Cemetery in memory of fallen heroes of the Civl War from this town. For many years, the Memorial Day Service was held at its base. In May 1949, the services were moved to the American Legion Home on Nicholas Street. The G. A. R.

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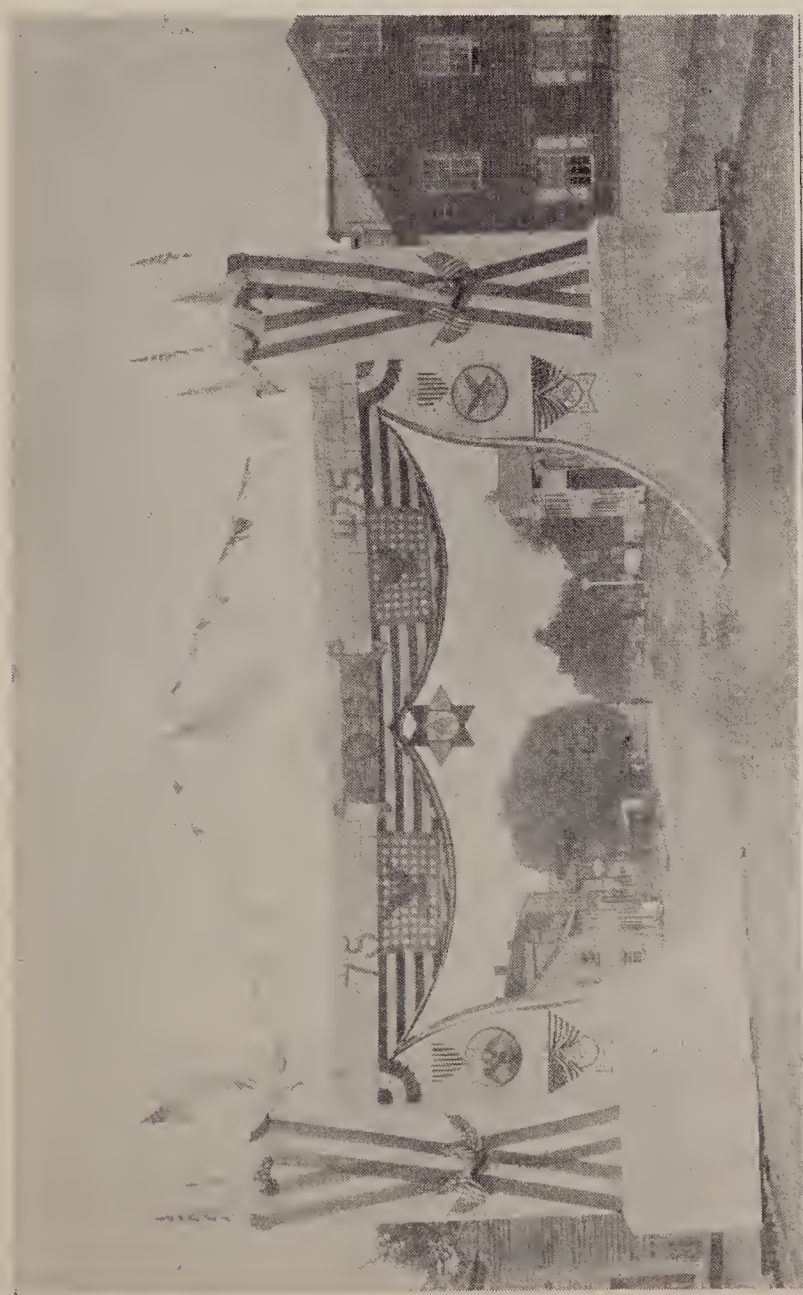

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organization is long since out of existence. Its membership totally depleted by death.

In 1890, some of the town's public spirited citizens namely: Ransloe Boone, Mrs. S. H. Daddow, George Gwinner, George Farne, James Thomas, Daniel Duffy, Seth Orme, Michael Devlin, Michael Hillan, and Henry Davis, published "Personal War Sketches" of the boys from Saint Clair who answered Lincoln's call for troops. This publication is on file in our High School Library.

The Spanish War Veterans' organization, Company K, is no longer functioning because all of its members have passed on. Its home was the Armory, which was destroyed by fire some years ago, now the Potts residence corner of Third and Carroll Streets.

World War I brought the American Legion Organization Duda-Baldwin Post 719 named in honor of the first two town boys to make the supreme sacrifice.

This organization has recently purchased and remodeled a home on North Nicholas Street.

The citizens of Saint Clair erected a monument on South Second Street in memory of the veterans of World War I.

The American Legion has a Women's Auxiliary which helps this service club carry out its projects and welfare work.

World War II has brought more veterans organizations to the town. Some of the veterans have affiliated with American Legion. Others formed the Amvets and still others the Catholic War Veterans' Association. The Catholic War Veterans have a Women's Auxiliary.

The citizens of the town have purchased and dedicated an ambulance in memory of the boys of this commuity who served in the Air Corps, the Army, and the Navy in World War II.

SPORTS — Saint Clair has always been rated a sports' town. We had a very active Athletic Club which fostered all the sports, particularly baseball and basketball. The great event of Labor Day for many years was a fine athletic program under the direction of the above club. We had a fine baseball diamond on Parvin's Hill with enclosed bleacher seats. The present site of the High School Football Field had a fine baseball diamond, too, with bleacher seats and fenced in. Walker's Hall now Denatsko's, at the corner of Third and Carroll, was the center of basketball games.

Three of our sons have made professional baseball records. John Titus, "Silent Jack" Edward Delker, and Joseph "Socks" Holden.

Many of our High School graduates have played on college football teams. Sport activities still constitute a chief recreation in the town. Various churches and clubs have baseball, basketball, and volley ball teams. Some individuals, industrial concerns, the American Legion, and Amvets are doing a fine piece of work with the slogan, "Better a boy in sports than in the courts."

PLAYGROUNDS — The unemployed in Saint Clair in 1933 started the Community Playground. Many young and older men of the community worked daily throughout that summer without any remuneration for their labor. The Saint Clair Coal Company donated the use of the steamshovel to help with the hard work. A park and pool was located on Hughes' Fields, controlled and owned by Reading Coal and Iron Company. The

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Pottsville Water Company supplied water for the pool and a lighting system was installed by borough officials.

At the present time there are several community playgrounds as well as the Carroll Street Schoolyard. The council provides a caretaker for the community's playgrounds and this past summer some teachers of the district supervised recreation for all children who wished to enroll.

The trend as we open the centennnial is for the council and the School Board to work as a unit to provide recreation for the summer and work out a commendable playground project.

MOVIES — Perhaps the town's social development would not be complete without mention of the moving pictures.

The first pictures were the silent pictures introduced by Otto Miller and shown in the Armory. This building was located on the corner of Third and Carroll Streets; now the Potts Brothers property.

Also pictures were shown in the Joseph Denning's property on North Second Street, now the Galarus property; in the Boone Building where the Five and Ten Cent Store is now located; and in the Columbia Hose building, destroyed by fire in 1922.

The present two moving picture theaters are the Ritz Theater, owned by Stanley Peters, and the Hollywood Theater, owned by Mrs. Anna Potts and operated by Mark Rubinsky.

Over the years Saint Clair has produced many home talent plays which were held in the Armory and Columbia Hose building.

CIVIC IMPROVEMENT — The entire site of Saint Clair was a dense forest. Parvin's Hill was a beautiful chestnut grove; but the town as it is located today was a swamp. Therefore all settlements were made surrounding this swamp viz. John's Patch, Crow Hollow, Mount Hope, Milne's Hill, Girard Tunnel and Irish Town.

However, between 1840 - 1870 several rows of houses became popular. Howard's Row on South Mill Street, Long's Row on North Third Street, Langiman Row on South Third Street, and Kirk's Row on Nicholas Street. These primitive dwellings were log cabin variety consisting of two rooms built on one floor.

STREETS — The streets were laid out as soon as the trees were removed and named long before 1850. The first street laid out was Nicholas Street in 1831 by Carey, Lee and Hart. It was planned then that all streets would run paralleled to or at right angles with Nicholas Street. Today eight run parallel and nine run horizontally. All are paved and the Main Street is completely lighted from north to south with boulevard lights.

SEWERAGE — Early in our history, a sewerage system was laid on Second Street and as the borough prospered and money was available, every street was afforded sewage convenience. Today our borough is properly drained and sanitation is practiced thoroughly.

LIGHTING — In 1892 the Saint Clair Electric Light Department was organized with its own plant. This plant generated its own power until 1922 when our present system of purchasing electric power came into use. From that time to the present we have purchased power wholesale from the Pennsylvania Power and Light Company. Power is sold to the consumer by the local Saint Clair Light Department. Great

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Francis Miller, Borough Treasurer
Herman J. Jacoby, Borough Superintendent
William T. Brady, Chief Burgess
Raymond R. Monahan, Borough Solicitor

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profit has been realized through this arrangement, and many civic improvements now enjoyed were obtained by this profit.

WATER SUPPLY — Prior to 1850 all drinking water was received from wells and springs and washing water from Mill Creek. About 1854 water was distributed through a 12 inch pipe from Little Wolfe Creek to some streets in town. Also Mill Creek was used until 1864, when its waters became polluted by drainage from the mines. In 1871 Moria Dam was built, in 1892 Kauffman Reservoir, and in 1904 Wolfe Creek. This is all under the Pottsville Water Company, from whom we get our water supply. Pipes of several diameters run through the town to supply our water demand. Also many fire hydrants are in service for fire protection.

Among our modern improvements, Saint Clair has become a land of homes. Residents of a large percentage are no longer renters but owners of their residences, and this tends for civic pride and improvement. Homes can be found in all parts of the town improved by modern shingles, modern porches, painting and artistic structural design. Lawns and flower gardens are prominent, and this together with garbage and ash disposal tends to provide a pleasant and inviting environment.

Also holiday decorations and flags are used on the main street. The flags for patriotic days and during the death and burial of a veteran. The entrances have been beautified by the planting of trees and by cultivating the mountain slopes with flowering plants and vines.

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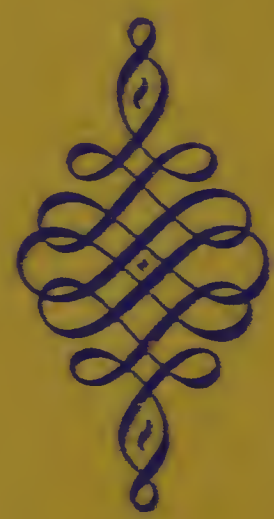

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